

Issued: December 23, 2015

## Notice of Environmental Assessment Scoping Decision

## In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy for a Route Permit under the Alternative Permitting Process for the Palisade 115 kV Transmission Project in Aitkin County, Minnesota

eDockets No. ET2/TL-15-423

Please take notice that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Commerce) issued the Scoping Decision for the environmental assessment (EA) to be prepared for the proposed Palisade 115 kV transmission line project in the Aitkin County, Minnesota.

The EA will be prepared by Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff and will address the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project. The Scoping Decision identifies the issues and routes that will be examined in the EA. as well as those issues and alternative routes that will not be addressed.

The Scoping Decision and other relevant documents are available on the EERA website: <a href="http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?ld=34249">http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?ld=34249</a>, and on the State of Minnesota eDockets system: <a href="https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp">https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp</a> (enter the year "15" and the number "423").

The EA is scheduled to be completed in March 2016. A public hearing will be held in the vicinity of the project area after completion of the EA.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Environmental Review Manager Suzanne Steinhauer (651-539-1843 or <a href="mailto:suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us">suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us</a>) or Public Advisor Tracy Smetana (651-296-0406 or <a href="mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us">consumer.puc@state.mn.us</a>).

To place your name on the project mailing list, contact <u>docketing.puc@state.mn.us</u> or 651-201-2234 and provide the docket number (15-628), your name, email address, and mailing address. Please indicate how you would like to receive notices—by email or U.S. mail.

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